

A.) Rejection of claims 1-6 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by *Chaloner-Gill*:

Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection.

Claim 1 has been amended to claim a nonaqueous electrolyte battery comprising a first gas absorbable member positioned at a first side of a battery element, and a second gas absorbable member positioned at a second side of the battery element opposite the first side. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **“VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES MADE.”**

Referring to Applicants’ Figure 5 for illustrative purposes, Applicants’ independent claim 1 claims a nonaqueous electrolyte battery comprising a battery element 1 contained in an outer covering member composed of a laminated film and sealed therein by heat seal. A gas absorbable material and resin material are interposed between an outermost layer of the outer covering member and the battery element. A content of the gas absorbable material is in a range of 0.1wt% to 95wt% on a basis of a weight of the resin material. A first gas absorbable member 5 is positioned at a first side of a battery element. A second gas absorbable member 6 is positioned at a second side of the battery element opposite the first side.

This is clearly unlike *Chaloner-Gill*, which fails to disclose or suggest a first and second gas absorbable members positioned at opposite sides of a battery element. Referring to *Chaloner-Gill* Figure 1, *Chaloner-Gill* discloses a cell 10 sealed between two sheets of an outer covering member 5. The two sheets of the outer covering member 5 are sealed along seals 32, 33, 34, and 35. Unlike Applicants’ claim 1, nowhere does *Chaloner-Gill* disclose or suggest providing first and second gas absorbable members in addition to its outer covering member 5. In fact, nowhere does *Chaloner-Gill* even teach that such first and second gas absorbable members can be provided.

Therefore, *Chaloner-Gill* fails to disclose or suggest Applicants’ claim 1.

Claims 2-6 and 11 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

Applicants respectfully submit the rejection be overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

B.) Rejection of claims 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Chaloner-Gill* in view of *Kamauchi et al.*:

Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection.

Applicants' independent claim 1, as amended, is allowable over *Chaloner-Gill* as described above. *Kamauchi et al.* still fails to disclose or suggest a first and second gas absorbable members positioned at opposite sides of a battery element. Therefore, *Chaloner-Gill* in view of *Kamauchi et al.* still fails to disclose or suggest Applicants' claim 1.

Claims 7-10 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

Applicants respectfully submit the rejection be overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-11 are patentable. It is therefore submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher P. Rauch (Reg. No. 45,034)
Christopher P. Rauch
SONNENSCHNEIDER, NATH & ROSENTHAL
P.O. Box #061080
Wacker Drive Station - Sears Tower
Chicago, IL 60606-1080
Telephone 312/876-2606
Customer #26263
Attorneys for Applicant(s)



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A nonaqueous electrolyte battery comprising:
a battery element contained in an outer covering member composed of a laminated film and sealed therein by heat seal; [and]
a gas absorbable material and resin material interposed between an outermost layer of said outer covering member and said battery element, a content of the gas absorbable material being in a range of 0.1wt% to 95wt% on a basis of a weight of the resin material;
a first gas absorbable member positioned at a first side of the battery element; and
a second gas absorbable member positioned at a second side of the battery element
opposite the first side.

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